

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-00

INFO LOG-00 COPY-01 ADS-00 INR-10 SS-00 OIC-02 CIAE-00
DODE-00 H-01 IO-19 NSCE-00 NSAE-00 SSO-00 HA-09
L-03 TRSE-00 PM-10 PA-01 OMB-01 INRE-00 ACDA-12
USIE-00 SP-02 SNP-01 PRS-01 SARN-01 SDEL-03 SART-01
/078 W

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O 231648Z FEB 76
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1891
INFO CSCE COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY EMBBERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 05520

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PGOV, CSCE, NATO, PARM, MCAP, CDE, GE, GC, BQG, BZ
SUBJECT: GDR TROOP EXERCISE: CDE NOTIFICATION

REF: STATE 51550

1. SUMMARY. BONN GROUP HAS CONSIDERED QUESTION OF HOW
CSCE OBSERVERS FROM NATO COUNTRIES SHOULD ARRIVE AT
EXERCISE ASSEMBLY POINT AT HOTEL STADT POTSDAM. BONN
GROUP HAS AGREED TO RECOMMEND THAT, IN VIEW OF
SENSITIVITIES CONCERNING DEMILITARIZED STATUS OF BERLIN,
NATO-COUNTRY OBSERVERS WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THEIR MILITARY
FORCES NOT ARRIVE AT POTSDAM VIA BERLIN (EAST OR WEST),
BUT PROCEED DIRECTLY TO POTSDAM (E.G. FROM FRG) USING OWN
TRANSPORTATION; RESPONSES TO THE GDR INVITATION AND
SUBSEQUENT ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS NEED NOT MENTION
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THAT OBSERVERS WILL NOT TRANSIT VIA BERLIN, BUT SHOULD BE
CONSISTENT WITH THIS SCENARIO. ACTION REQUESTED: SEE PARA
5. END SUMMARY.

2. FRG REPRESENTATIVE HAS POINTED OUT THAT BUNDESWEHR
OBSERVERS TO GDR EXERCISE NEED INSTRUCTIONS ON WHETHER

THEY SHOULD GO TO POTSDAM VIA WEST BERLIN OR DIRECTLY FROM THE FRG. BONN GROUP NOTED THAT ALL OF BERLIN IS DEMILITARIZED AND THEREFORE FRG MILITARY PERSONNEL NORMALLY TRAVEL TO WEST BERLIN OUT OF UNIFORM AND PRIVATELY, NOT ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS. SIMILAR PRECAUTIONS ARE GENERALLY OBSERVED BY MEMBERS OF OTHER NATO COUNTRY ARMED FORCES, EXCEPT FOR THE THREE WESTERN PROTECTIVE POWERS IN BERLIN (US, UK, FRANCE).

3. UK REPRESENTATIVE NOTED THAT SOVIETS OR GDR COULD ARGUE THAT NATO STATES WERE VIOLATING DEMILITARIZED STATUS OF BERLIN IF MILITARY OBSERVERS TO EXERCISE, PARTICULARLY BUNDESWEHR, TRANSITED WEST BERLIN ON WAY TO POTSDAM. ALTHOUGH, IN BONN GROUP VIEW, SUCH TRANSIT WOULD NOT CONSTITUTE VIOLATION OF DEMILITARIZED STATUS OF BERLIN, IT MIGHT BE USED BY SOVIET/GDR AS EXCUSE TO LEAVE INITIAL BRIEFING AT EAST BERLIN SITE INSTEAD OF MOVING IT OUTSIDE THE CITY.

4. ACCORDINGLY, BONN GROUP AGREED TO SUGGEST THAT NATO COUNTRY MILITARY OBSERVERS BE ADVISED TO ARRIVE DIRECTLY AT POTSDAM (E.G. FROM HELMSTEDT IN THE FRG) WITHOUT TRAVELING THROUGH BERLIN. UK REPRESENTATIVE, ACTING ON INSTRUCTIONS, HAS PROPOSED THAT THE THREE PROTECTING POWERS IN BERLIN (FRANCE, UK, AND US), AS WELL AS OTHER NATO MEMBERS, BE INCLUDED IN THIS PROCEDURE. ALTHOUGH NO QUESTION OF DEMILITARIZATION ARISES WITH RESPECT TO THE CONFIDENTIAL

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THREE POWERS, WHO ARE ENTITLED TO MILITARY PRESENCE IN BERLIN, UK FELT THAT SOLIDARITY FROM NON-THREE NATO ALLIES IN NOT TRANSITING BERLIN WAS MOST LIKELY TO BE ACHIEVED IF THE THREE ALLIES IMPOSED SIMILAR CONSTRAINTS ON THEIR OWN PERSONNEL. IT WAS AGREED THAT SLIGHT DOWNSIDE OF SELF-RESTRAINT WOULD BE THAT ALLIES WOULD HAVE IMPOSED ON THEMSELVES A RESTRICTION WHICH IS NOT STRICTLY SPEAKING REQUIRED BY DEMILITARIZED STATUS OF BERLIN BUT WHICH COULD BE TAKEN BY THE EASTERN SIDE AS A PRECEDENT IF THEY BECAME AWARE OF IT.

5. COMMENT AND RECOMMENDATION. WE AGREE WITH APPROACH DESCRIBED ABOVE, WHICH HAS FINAL AGREEMENT FROM UK AND FRG, BUT IS AD REF WITH FRENCH. GIVEN REQUIREMENT FOR CSCE STATES TO ADVISE GDR IN NEXT FEW DAYS (WE UNDERSTAND DEADLINE IS WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25) WHETHER THEY WILL BE SENDING OBSERVERS, WE RECOMMEND THAT DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZE USNATO TO FLAG ISSUE OF BERLIN TRANSIT IN FEBRUARY 24 NATO POLITICAL COMMITTEE MEETING, AND THAT USNATO RECOMMEND AT THAT MEETING THAT ALL NATO COUNTRY MILITARY OBSERVERS DO NOT TRANSIT BERLIN ON WAY TO POTSDAM AND DO NOT INDICATE

TO THE CONTRARY IN RESPONDING TO GDR INVITATION OR
SUBSEQUENT COMMUNICATIONS OR ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE GDR.
WE WILL INFORM USNATO OF FINAL FRENCH POSITION EARLY
MORNING FEBRUARY 24.

6. MOSCOW MINIMIZE CONSIDERED.

DOBBINS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CDE, NOTIFICATION, STATUS, MILITARY CAPABILITY, MILITARY EXERCISE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BONN05520
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: R9
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D870140-0779
From: BONN OR-M
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760221/aaaaasqi.tel
Line Count: 135
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 51550
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 APR 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <11 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GDR TROOP EXERCISE: CDE NOTIFICATION
TAGS: PGOV, PARM, MCAP, GE, GC, BZ, CSCE, NATO, BQG
To: STATE CSCE COLLECTIVE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006